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at 9.30 a.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 8th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. ESSY
(President of the General Assembly)

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The meeting was called to order at 9.40 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-NINTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Namibia (A/49/237)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider a request for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "United Nations Fund for Namibia: scholarship programme for Namibian students", contained in document A/49/237. The representative of Namibia had asked to address the Committee on that matter in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

2. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Huaraka (Namibia) took a place at the Committee table.

3. Mr. HUARAKA (Namibia) said that the policy of his Government was to give top priority to education. The United Nations Fund for Namibia had enabled a number of Namibian students to pursue their careers. Currently, only one student remained in the programme, the others having completed their studies; the funds required to enable that student to complete his education by 1996 would be transferred to the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa. Accordingly, his Government recommended that the Trust Fund should be discontinued.

4. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.

5. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting on a priority basis.

6. Mr. Huaraka (Namibia) withdrew.

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by a number of countries (A/49/238)

7. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider a request for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community", contained in document A/49/238. The representative of Belize had asked to address the Committee on that matter in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

8. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Laing (Belize) took a place at the Committee table.

9. Mr. LAING (Belize) said that the Caribbean Community had had observer status at the United Nations since October 1991. Since then, substantial cooperation had existed between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, on the one hand, and the Caribbean Community, on the other hand, in the areas of

economic and social development and political and social affairs. In particular, the Community had cooperated with the United Nations in such areas as poverty alleviation, job creation, human resources development, trade and economic diversification, the empowerment of women, health, the development of small island developing States, the freedom of peoples and countries of southern Africa and the promotion of democracy and human rights in Haiti.

10. Cooperation between the two organizations was also exemplified by the fact that Jamaica was the host country of the International Seabed Authority and that Barbados had been the venue of the recent United Nations Conference on Small Island Developing States.

11. While the proposed draft resolution on the item requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on its implementation, that report would not be due until the fifty-first session of the General Assembly.

12. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.

13. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

14. Mr. ROSENSTOCK (United States of America) said that he had delayed making any statement until after the Committee had taken action on the request before it, as his delegation did not wish its concerns to be attached to any particular item. However, it was somewhat concerned at the increasing tendency for additional items to be introduced under rule 15 of the rules of procedure at various stages of the work of the General Assembly. In the long run, if that trend continued, it would have an adverse impact on the orderly functioning of the Assembly and on the organization of the Assembly's session in a manner consistent with the interests of all.

15. His delegation hoped that in the future efforts would be made to propose items in a timely manner so that they would not require action under rule 15 or, where possible, to introduce items in the following year. The rule in question was designed to make it possible to introduce items which were of particular urgency and which could not have been proposed before the beginning of the session or deferred to the following session.

16. The CHAIRMAN said he hoped that at that late stage of the Assembly's work there would be no further requests for the inclusion of additional items in the agenda.

The meeting rose at 9.55 a.m.